

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended, leaving claims 1-9 pending, with claim 1 being independent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0142174 to Boyd et al. Additionally, the Examiner has rejected claims 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyd '174 in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0032468 to Killmeier et al. Lastly, the Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyd '174 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,975,687 to Powers.

Applicants have carefully reviewed the rejections, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a)

After the above claim amendments, claims 1-3 and 7-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0142174 to Boyd et al., claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyd '174 in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0032468 to Killmeier et al., and claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyd '174 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,975,687 to Powers (please note: Boyd '174 is a 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) reference, not, a 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) reference).

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to address the rejections. Applicants assert that claim 1, as well as newly added independent claim 10, and their dependent claims, are now allowable. As amended, independent claims 1 requires **“the receiving part having an ink feed hole including a dam on its circumference to support the head chip, and a secondary dam of the same height as the dam which also supports the head chip.”** As seen in, for example, Figure 5b of the pending application, the dam 50 and secondary dam 55 are configured to support the head chip 21. Moreover, the dam 50 and secondary dam 55 extend in a downward direction towards and parallel to the ink feed hole. Therefore, the head chip 21 can be attached parallel to the printing paper when attaching the print head unit 20. The secondary dam 55 also can minimize the generation of cracks in the head chip 21.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Boyd '174, in Figure 1, discloses a head chip 170, a nozzle 176a-b, a flexible circuit 120 (Figure 1), and a housing (Figure 1). Moreover, the Examiner alleges that in Figure 6, Boyd '174 discloses a receiving part (no reference numeral given) having an ink feed hole, a dam 190a, a secondary dam 190b, and an ink chamber 160. Even if Boyd '174 was broadly construed to include such limitations, the independent claims as amended clarify that the dam and secondary dam of the exemplary embodiment of the present invention support the head chip. In contrast, the Boyd '174 baffles/dams do not support the head chip.

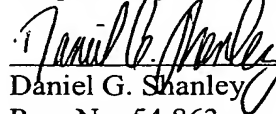
Accordingly, Boyd '174 does not disclose, nor does it suggest, the limitations of amended independent claim 1. Moreover, none of the cited references, either alone or in the proposed combinations, disclose the combination of recited limitations. Consequently, claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2-9 are allowable, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,



Daniel G. Shanley
Reg. No. 54,863
Attorney for Applicant

Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman, L.L.P.
1300 19th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20036-2680
Main: (202) 659-9076
Direct: (202) 530-7373